

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

L-03 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /085 W

-----026615 021051Z /15

R 012150Z DEC 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8135

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS USUN 5154

USEEC

USOEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC, ECA

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA, SECOND COMMITTEE-RESOLUTION
ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA

REF: (A)USUN 4759;(B) STATE 281349

1. SECOND COMMITTEE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS RESOLUTION
A/C.2/32/L.3, WITH AMENDMENT A/C.2/32/L.3, ON TRANSPORT
AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA. U.S. DELEGATION JOINED
CONSENSUS AND DELIVERED STATEMENT PRIOR TO DECISION
INDICATING U.S. VIEWS ON FINANCING QUESTION ACCORDING TO
INSTRUCTIONS REF B. FULL TEXT U.S. STATEMENT TRANSMITTED
BELOW.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIAN DELEGATION, ON BEHALF OF SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES, MADE EXPLANATION OF VOTE EMPHASIZING PROVISIONS
IN RESOLUTION CONSIDERED TO BE UNCLEAR. HE SAID
QUESTIONS RELATING TO FORM AND SIZE OF ASSISTANCE EXPECTED FROM THE
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UN ARE LEFT UNANSWERED. LIKEWISE, HE SAID UN COORDINATING
FUNCTION IN MOBILIZING RESOURCES IS NOT CLEARLY EXPLAINED,
NOR ARE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IN GENERAL ADEQUATELY EXPL-
ORED. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS COULD
EXTEND FAR BEYOND AVAILABLE UN RESOURCES. IF RESOLUTION CAME
TO VOTE, HE SAID, SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE
ABSTAINED.

3. FRG DELEGATION MADE BRIEF STATEMENT CONFIRMING HIS DELEGATION'S UNDERSTANDING THAT AMENDMENTS IN RESOLUTION L.45 PERTAIN SPECIFICALLY TO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS REPORT L.33.

4. FRANCE DELIVERED SHORT STATEMENT SAYING THAT IT WAS UNDERSTANDING OF HIS DELEGATION THAT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 OF L.3 CONCERNED ONLY PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING OF MINISTERS TO BE HELD IN ADDIS ABABA IN NOVEMBER, 1978.

5. FULL TEXT U.S. STATEMENT DELIVERED BY CONGRESSMAN WHALEN FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION IS PLEASE TO SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION ON THE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA IN LINE WITH MY GOVERNMENT'S POSITION AT THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND AT ECOSOC.

THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AT THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION REAFFIRMED THEIR BELIEF THAT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF ALL COUNTRIES; AND FURTHER, THAT INFRASTRUCTURE SHOULD INCREASE THE OVERALL PRODUCTIVITY OF THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SERVE HUMAN ADVANCEMENT THROUGH THE MEETING OF BASIC COLLECTIVE NEEDS. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THESE CONCEPTS. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE REGIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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APPROACH TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEMS IS IMPORTANT WITH REGARD TO COUNTRIES THAT ARE PARTICULARLY DISADVANTAGED GEOGRAPHICALLY AND INTER ALIA TO THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AS A WHOLE. IN THIS RESPECT, WE RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS WILL MAKE TOWARD THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.

IN REGARD TO RESOLUTION A/C.2/32/L.3 NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION, AND SPECIFICALLY TO THE REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS A/C.2/32/L.33 AND THE AMENDMENTS IN A/C.2/32/L.45, THE UNITED STATES VIEWS ON THE FINANCING QUESTION HAVE NOT CHANGED SINCE THEY WERE EXPRESSED AT THE SIXTY-THIRD ECOSOC SESSION. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO FAVOR VOLUNTARY FUNDING IN MOBILIZING THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO MAKE THE DECADE A SUCCESS. LIKEWISE WE URGE THE REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES IN FAVOR OF THE TRANSPORT SECTOR IN ORDER TO MEET ANY FUTURE INCREASE REQUIRED FROM ASSESSED FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S ROLE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAM AND COORDINATION AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNGA RESOLUTIONS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770447-0404
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712102/aaaadjik.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8be4cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 4759, 77 STATE 281349
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 108882
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 32ND UNGA, SECOND COMMITTEE-RESOLUTION ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC, ECA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8be4cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009